

Oversight Subcommittee after I became Ranking Member in 2011.

Because of the wide-ranging oversight jurisdiction of the Committee, Dr. Pearson has been involved in investigating multiple federal agencies, from the Department of Energy to the Department of Homeland Security, Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, covering a broad array of science and technology issues. He leaves behind a legacy of helping to reign in waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement throughout the federal government dating back to the Science Committee's investigation of environmental crimes at the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant.

Dr. Pearson's oversight efforts have helped to uncover mismanagement of federal resources, projects and programs. He helped to re-open a network of key EPA regional libraries that had been inexplicably closed. He investigated the Veterans Administration's inappropriate destruction of an irreplaceable collection of biological samples, including the legionella bacteria that causes Legionnaires disease. He managed an investigation into an important Department of Homeland Security (DHS) laboratory called the Environmental Measurements Laboratory (EML) that revealed the DHS Science & Technology Directorate had intended to close this crucial lab without informing Congress. Dr. Pearson's efforts resulted in saving this lab from closure. His oversight efforts also resulted in the withdrawal of federal funding from a technically troubled and poorly managed aerospace project called the DP-2. His investigation of the mishandling of a critical radioactive isotope, Helium-3, used for the identification and detection of dangerous radioactive material, helped put management of that program back on track.

Dr. Pearson's oversight work on scientific integrity and public health resulted in several investigations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) including its sister agency the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). These investigations led to the public disclosure of a flawed public health report on the potentially toxic levels of formaldehyde in trailers provided to survivors of Hurricane Katrina and Rita by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and a flawed CDC report on the levels of lead-in-water in Washington, D.C. In that instance, the Committee's investigation prompted an internal CDC investigation of its Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch and the agency issued two separate formal notifications correcting its public health study.

In his investigatory and oversight role, Dr. Pearson has been a tireless advocate for people who would otherwise have been left behind by the government. There is no better example of this determination than the work Dan did on behalf of the families of Marines at Camp Lejeune, who we came to learn became sick because of a polluted water supply. It was the kind of staff work that should be admired and copied.

Dr. Pearson has always believed strongly in the institutional oversight authority vested in Congress and the need to investigate alleged wrongdoing by those tasked with overseeing federal agencies. His nonpartisan oversight efforts in this regard contributed to the removal

of three federal Inspector Generals (IGs) from office over the years, one at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and two at the Department of Commerce.

Throughout all of these investigations and oversight activities, Dr. Pearson demonstrated the patience and endurance to keep after wrongdoers in the federal government for months and even years if necessary. Doing investigatory work for a House committee can be thankless task at times, but Dr. Pearson was always willing to do what was necessary to carry out his oversight responsibilities.

In sum, Dr. Pearson has been a critically important member of the Committee staff. He has been passionate about the issues he has worked on, committed to excellence, and a thoughtful mentor to new staff members. I will miss him and dedicated service to the Committee. At the same time, Congress's loss will be his family's gain, and I know that his wife Neddie and his daughter Nora are looking forward to their time together with him in Oregon.

I want to thank him for his selfless professionalism and wish him all the best for the next phase of his life.

RECOGNIZING COUNCILMAN SCOTT KINCAID FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Flint City Councilman Scott Kincaid for his commitment to the city and for the years he has served as a public servant.

Born in Flint, MI in 1952, Councilman Kincaid has been committed to his hometown most of his life. In 1970, he graduated from Flint Southwestern. After graduation, Councilman Kincaid's strong sense of civic duty led him to serve in the United States Army.

Following his time in the service, Councilman Kincaid worked for GM Fisher and was heavily involved with the UAW. He served on the Executive Board, was the Education Director, and was appointed the Joint Activity Representative for Local 581. By 2003, he was working as the Government Liaison to assist with new plant investments. He is currently the Health Initiatives Coordinator for Region 1C Flint.

In 1985, Councilman Kincaid was first elected to the Flint City Council. He has from that day forward served the City of Flint to the best of his abilities. Councilman Kincaid served as Council President more than once over his tenure with the city.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work and commitment of Councilman Kincaid. It is the dedication of people like him that keeps this city strong.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. WILLIAM E. "BRIT" KIRWAN

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. William "Brit" Kirwan, who has been a leader in the State of Maryland and in higher education for more than 50 years.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." Well, I can tell you that Dr. Kirwan's commitment to leadership and learning over these last 50 years have been indispensable not only to one another, but to higher education in Maryland and across the nation. Leading with integrity and purpose, Dr. Kirwan has earned the trust and respect of faculty, students and other leaders of higher education all over the country.

Throughout his career, Dr. Kirwan has been committed to something he has described as "constructive leadership"—which involves becoming a leader not through division and power, but through unity and service. He has embodied this philosophy at College Park, serving as chancellor of the University System of Maryland for more than 12 years, as president of the University of Maryland for 10 years and as a member of the University's faculty for 24 years.

Dr. Kirwan has also taken his service and expertise beyond College Park, chairing the National Research Council Board of Higher Education and co-chairing the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics. He also serves on the boards of more than five organizations—including the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Maryland Chamber of Commerce, Greater Baltimore Committee, Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore and Maryland Business Roundtable for Education. And he belongs to more than four honorary and professional societies—including Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America.

These efforts have not gone unnoticed. Dr. Kirwan is the recipient of one of the nation's highest honors in higher education—the TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence. His invaluable leadership and his commitment to higher education in our state have also been recognized by several Maryland-based government, academic and business organizations.

But perhaps the legacy of Dr. Kirwan's service over these last 50 years is best conveyed in his own words. In a speech delivered to Phi Beta Kappa inductees in 2004, Dr. Kirwan said, "Our nation is in dire need of a new generation of enlightened leadership . . . highly educated, wise leaders who have respect for the individual, for inclusiveness, integrity and the common good." He continued, ". . . our nation and world face a distressing array of enormous challenges, which—without enlightened leadership—will only worsen in the coming years."

If the next generation embodies Dr. Kirwan's commitment to service and enlightened leadership, I am confident that it will successfully take on the world's complex challenges.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CABOT REA

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate longtime WCMH anchor, Cabot Rea, as he retires from broadcast news. For more than 30 years Central Ohioans have welcomed him into their homes and trusted his balanced reporting.

While he worked as a radio announcer when he attended Otterbein College, now Otterbein University, journalism was a second career for Cabot. He first served as the Music and Choral Director at Wilson Junior High in Newark where he was twice named "Teacher of the Year."

He came to the airwaves as a weekend sports anchor and feature reporter in 1985 for WCMH. However, it was as the field anchor for 5:30 Live that Cabot endeared himself to tens of thousands of families across Central Ohio. He proved he was ready for anything by visiting communities, participating in events, and telling the stories of what makes Central Ohio and Central Ohioans so special.

When he teamed up to anchor broadcasts with Colleen Marshall in 1992, no one could have predicted they would enjoy one of the longest tenures in Columbus as co-anchors. For more than 20 years, Cabot and Colleen have been the team viewers turned to in order to learn what was happening across town and around the world.

Even when the cameras were turned off, Cabot's service to the community didn't stop. Whether it was helping those in need with 4's Army, championing NBC4's "Battle against Bullying" campaign, or working with Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Make A Wish Foundation, the Huntington Disease Foundation or the Cancer Support Community Central Ohio, Cabot is a leader in every sense of the word.

One of the most recognizable faces in Central Ohio, viewers will miss his clear, concise reporting and captivating story-telling. I have enjoyed working with Cabot over the years and I congratulate him on his 30-year career as a journalist. I wish him and his wife, Heather, the best in retirement.

HONORING THE FORT HILL HIGH SCHOOL SENTINELS

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of the Fort Hill Sentinels, an extraordinary group of young men from Western Maryland who have inspired their community and gained recognition across the state. This month, Fort Hill High School of Cumberland won their third consecutive state football title, winning the Class 1A Maryland State Championship.

On December 5, the Sentinels defeated Havre de Grace 44-14 behind a powerful rushing attack and a strong defense. The Sentinels averaged over 10 yards per play, led by

fullback Raen Smith who ran for 234 yards. Fort Hill is 40-1 over the last three seasons.

The results produced by the Sentinels—win after win after win for three seasons—are a testament to their dedication, teamwork and intelligence, all qualities that we should celebrate. After winning the state title Coach Todd Appel told the Cumberland Times-News the team would be back in the weight room the next week, a testament to the hard work and commitment of the team.

The achievement of the Fort Hill Sentinels should be recognized and recorded for posterity. Congratulations to the Fort Hill Sentinels, Coach Appel and his staff and everyone who played a part in this championship season.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MICHAEL J. RIGNEY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Michael J. Rigney for his dedication to duty and service as a Defense Legislative Fellow to my late respected colleague Chairman C.W. Bill Young of the 13th Congressional district of Florida, as well as his support from within the Pentagon as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison. Major Rigney will be transitioning from his present assignment to serve as an Acquisition Officer at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama.

A native of Long Island, New York, Major Rigney was accepted into the Hofstra University Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 2000, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree and graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate with the class of 2004. Upon graduation, Mike was commissioned as an Army Aviation Branch Officer. He has subsequently earned a Master's degree in Legislative Affairs from the George Washington University.

Prior to entering the Army Congressional Fellowship Program, Mike served in numerous tactical leadership and staff assignments as an Army Aviation Branch Officer, and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter Pilot. Major Rigney's assignments include Flight School Student, United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Alabama; Flight Platoon Leader, 4th Battalion 3rd Aviation Regiment (Assault), 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and Baghdad, Iraq; Aviation Brigade Future Plans and Operations Officer, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Baghdad, Iraq; Commander, Bravo Company, 4th Battalion 3rd Aviation Regiment (Task Force Brawler), 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and Logar Province, Afghanistan; Student, Army Aviation Captain's Career Course, Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Alabama. Major Rigney was deployed for 16 months in direct support of combat operations as part of the surge in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2007-2008, and then again for 12 months as part of the surge in Afghanistan, Regional Command—East, in 2009-2010. While deployed, Mike accumulated over 933 hours of combat flight time in direct support of Soldiers in the fight of his nearly 1,300 hours of total military piloting experience.

In 2013, Michael was selected to be an Army Congressional Fellow for a year, working in Chairman Young's personal office on Capitol Hill and very closely with the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense. Next, in his role as a Congressional Budget Liaison, working with both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, Michael ensured the Army's budget positions were well represented and articulated. Michael was instrumental in ensuring that Congress was informed of the importance of key Army acquisition programs for the future fighting force.

Mike's interagency coordination and diligent work proved invaluable in assisting Members of Congress and their staff complete the important work of Congressional oversight in support of National Defense and United States foreign policy.

Throughout his career, Major Rigney has positively impacted his soldiers, peers, and superiors. Our country has been enriched by his extraordinary leadership, thoughtful judgment, and exemplary work. I join my colleagues today in honoring his dedication to our Nation and invaluable service to the United States Congress as an Army Congressional Budget Liaison.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a genuine pleasure to have worked with Major Michael Rigney over the last three years. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Michael for his service to his country and we wish him, his wife Jennifer, and sons, Jackson and Luca, all the best as they continue their journey in the United States Army.

HONORING CHARLES DiPERRI IN CELEBRATION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Charles DiPerri in celebration of reaching his 90th birthday.

As he reflects on the great memories that have highlighted the past ninety years, I know he will think fondly on all that he's accomplished and the positive impact he's had on New Hampshire.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Mr. DiPerri on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING BONNIE CARROLL ON RECEIVING THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bonnie Carroll on receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her life-long public service and dedication to veterans and their families.

Bonnie is the Founder and President of Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors